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SOURCE Soviet press as indicated.

OBLAST SPLITTED AND UYEZD CREATED

AMUR OBLAST MADE INDEPENDENT -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 62, 16 Mar 49

On 14 March 1949, the Supreme Soviet USSR confirmed the ukase of the Presidium of Supreme Soviet USSR of 2 August 1949 on the separation of Amur Oblast from Khabarovsk Kray and its establishment as an independent oblast of RSFSR. In Article 22 of the Constitution of USSR after the word "oblastey" the word "Amurskoy" has been inserted.

This decree was signed by N. Shvernik, chairman of Presidium of Supreme Soviet USSR, and A. Gorkin, secretary of Presidium of Supreme Soviet USSR.

NEW UYEZD CREATED IN ESTONIAN SHALE BASIN -- Sovetskaya Estoniya, No 61, 15 Mar 49

The new Iykhvi Uyezd was created by order of the Supreme Soviet Estonian SSR to bring Soviet and Party organs into closer contact with production management and workers. The new uyezd includes: two uyezd towns--Kiviyl and Iykhvi; four workers' settlements--Akhtme, Somp, Kokhtla, and Kyutteyyu; 12 volost's with 37 village soviets. The largest industrial enterprises of the shale basin within the jurisdiction of the new uyezd, include the new mechanized mine No 10, "Kokhtla" and "Kiviyl" Combines, Pyuss Power Plant, "Vivikond" Mine, "Kyutteyyu" Mine, Sonda Lumber Mill, Azeri Brick Plant, and several large construction organizations.

Iykhvi, the uyezd center, is a growing industrial town. New schools, hospitals, clubs, etc., are being built. Two entire blocks were built in 1948.

The organizational bureau of Iykhvi Uyezd has started to operate. The first Uyezd Party conference will be held at the end of March. Members of Soviet and Party organizations will attempt to make the new uyezd one of the leading ones in the Estonian SSR.

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